

White County Board Meeting  
August 9, 2005

A special meeting of the White County Board begun and holden this 9<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2005 in the Courtroom of the White County Courthouse in the City of Carmi.

Chairman Wooten called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Clerk Dozier called the roll with Nelson, Ray, Mitchell, Trout and Wooten all present.

Chairman Wooten asked the Board if they had received copies of the minutes of the July 12<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> meetings and are there any additions, changes or deletions to those minutes. Mr. Nelson made a motion that the reading of the minutes of the previous meetings be waived and that the minutes of the previous meetings be approved as proposed in writing. Mrs. Mitchell seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0 on roll call vote.

Chairman Wooten asked the Board for approval of the payment of all current bills. Mr. Ray stated that he had a question about an ambulance bill. He stated that on last month listing of payments he saw where a minimum payment on a credit card was being made which is costing the county money in finance charges. Mr. Ray stated that he thought that the credit card balance should be paid in full so that White County would not be out the finance charges and the interest. Mr. Wooten asked which department had the credit card and Mr. Ray replied the Ambulance Service. Mrs. Mitchell made a motion to pay all current bills, seconded by Trout. Motion passed 5-0 on roll call vote.

A letter was presented to the Board from Cindy Westfall about an ambulance incident. Chairman Wooten stated that if this letter concerned ambulance personnel that it would be addressed in Executive Session.

Mr. Ryan Holtzclaw stated that for years he has been the fleet manger for the Ambulance Service and has volunteered all of his time. Mr. Heckler told him the other day that there was no room in the budget for a fleet manager. Mr. Holtzclaw stated that the other day on a run one of the ambulance blew a tire. He stated that would have never happened had he been allowed to continue servicing the ambulances. Mr. Trout stated that the Ambulance Committee would address that issue.

Mr. Chris James requested a meeting with Mr. Heckler and the Ambulance Committee.

Mr. Heckler, Director of the White County Ambulance Service stated that he had submitted a written report to each board member.

Mr. Doug Maier, White County Sheriff, stated that the City/County jail population was 99 and 36 of those inmates were being housed for Vanderburgh County. Sheriff Maier stated that the jail expense was up but the income on the jail was \$163,569.03. Sheriff Maier stated that the County would owe the City of Carmi \$20,040.63. He stated that Vanderburgh County has paid up all of their housing expense and that is the reason this months jail revenue is so high.

Chairman Wooten informed the Board that the next 9-1-1 meeting would be held on Monday, August 15, 2005 at 7:00 p.m. in the Courtroom.

Mr. Jack Bosaw presented a construction engineering services agreement for federal participation on Section 00-00094-00-BR, which is Crooked Creek Bridge. Mr. Bosaw explained that Crooked Creek Bridge was completed but the State was asking for an amended construction engineering agreement for federal participation. Mr. Trout made a motion to approve the amended construction engineering agreement, seconded by Ray. Motion passed 5-0 on roll call vote. Mr. Bosaw stated that there was a successful bidder on the Herald Prairie Blacktop to 141. The paperwork will take at least thirty days before the project can begin. Mr. Bosaw stated that the total project would cost \$665,328.31 and was awarded to E. T. Simonds. Mr. Ray asked Mr. Bosaw about oil and chipping and he replied that because of the flooding in the Spring they were a little behind schedule and that there are several county and township roads that will be oil and chipped this fall.

Ms. Arlynn Davis, CPA of Botsch and Associates gave an overview of the 2004 audit. Ms. Davis explained the new audit format required by GASB 34. She stated that the audit was completed in May and that the total net assets of the County are \$5,907,195. She stated that the Board should be cautious because in affect the total county lost \$167,691.00 in the year 2004. The Ambulance Service created the biggest part of the deficit. The General Fund had a little over \$5,000.00 more income than expenditures for 2004, but the interesting thing is that 54.8% of the expenditures of the County are on personnel. She stated that

average in most municipalities and counties range from 30 to 40%. Ms. Davis explained that the Board has very little control over revenue and the only way of controlling the budget is through the expenditure line items. Chairman Wooten stated that years ago the County Board had passed a resolution extending the collection dates for real estate taxes and those dates have never changed. He stated that the Treasurer had mailed out the tax bills two weeks earlier this year, but the due dates are the same. Mr. Wooten stated that the taxes must be dispersed every thirty days once collection begins and this is a means of getting revenue to the County and the school districts. Ms. Davis agreed and stated that this was one avenue in which the County could speed up the cash flow by gradually backing up the installment dates on real estate taxes. Mr. Wooten stated that the statutes state that the real estate collection due dates are June and September. Mr. Ray stated that the sales tax revenue was down about \$41,000.00 and the property tax down around \$7,000.00. The store west of town was running small businesses out of business leaving buildings empty, therefore bringing the sale price of that real estate down and affecting the equalized assessed valuation. Mr. Ray explained fewer businesses creating a loss in sales tax revenues. Mr. Wooten asked Ms. Davis about the budget. Ms. Davis stated that the Board was doing a great job with preparing the budget and staying within those guidelines. Ms. Davis stated that all governmental entities that receive State monies were hurting, because the State of Illinois was also struggling. Ms. Davis stated that other counties and municipalities were in much worse shape than White County, but the County board should be diligent in controlling expenditures because those other entities have had layoffs and some offices are operating on half the staff. Mr. Wooten thanked Ms. Davis for 2004 audit overview.

Chairman Wooten stated that the next item on the agenda was to consider the first responders being allowed to apply for medical control under the White County Ambulance Service. Mr. Trout stated that Mr. Heckler and the Ambulance Committee has drafted some guidelines for the first responder program and that he would like to make a motion that the County proceed with allowing the first responders to apply for medical control under the White County Ambulance Service application. Mitchell seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0 on roll call vote.

Vicky Coe stated that she would like to address the Board about scheduling at the ambulance service. Mr. Wooten stated that if her problems were personnel related that they would be addressed in Executive Session.

Chairman Wooten stated that the next item on the agenda was to consider the appointment of Mr. Joel Healy to the White County Housing Authority Board for a five-year term. Mr. Ray made a motion to reappoint Mr. Healy, seconded by Mr. Nelson. Motion carried 5-0 on roll call vote.

Chairman Wooten stated that the next item on the agenda is a resolution. Chairman Wooten asked Clerk Dozier to explain the resolution and its affects. Clerk Dozier stated that the resolution was part of White County's grant application for \$135,000.00 of federal funding for accessible voting equipment. This resolution would bring White County into compliance with the next phase of the Help America Vote Act. The next phase of the Help America Vote Act is to provide a touch screen computer for each polling location in White County. The grant would provide \$5,000 per precinct to White County. To date the State Board of Elections has not approved any touch screen computer systems for use in Illinois, but the grant application has a September 30, 2005 deadline. Mr. Trout asked the Clerk if this was mandated and she replied yes.

### **RESOLUTION**

08-09-05

**RESOLVED**, That the White County Board of Board of Election Commissioners (hereafter "Board") hereby takes the following actions:

1. The "Board" agrees to apply for and accept funds being held by the Illinois State Board of Elections, which funds were furnished by the United States Government under the provisions of the Help America Vote Act ("HAVA"), for the purchase of new accessible voting equipment certified by the State Board of Elections and in compliance with HAVA requirements.
2. The "Board" agrees to take such action as may be necessary to comply with the requirements of the State Board of Elections for the release of such HAVA funds by supplying the State Board of Elections detailed descriptions of the equipment to be purchased, providing full information about payment amount and other cost information for such equipment, and upon receipt of such HAVA funds, the "Board" agrees to forward payment to its vendor no later than 30 days following receipt of assistance payment from the State Board of Elections or by the due date indicated on contract, whichever is earlier, as required by federal cash management statutes. The "Board" agrees to forward a copy of the check paid to the vendor and a copy of a paid invoice from the vendor to the SBE within 30 days of paying its vendor.

3. The "Board" agrees to take such action as necessary to be certain that the new voting equipment is fully consistent and in compliance with the requirements of the laws described in Section 906 of the Help America Vote Act (Attachment A), and will meet the voting system's standards adopted by the Federal Election Commission in May of 2002, and will meet the requirements of Title III Section 301 (a) (3) by January 1, 2006 (Attachment B).
4. The "Board" understands and agrees that equipment purchased by the said jurisdiction from HAVA funds shall become the property of the jurisdiction, not the State of Illinois. It understands and agrees that all property control and custody responsibilities will be assumed by the "Board".
5. The "Board" further agrees that future costs related to equipment and/or upgrades now being furnished with HAVA assistance (for example: maintenance, repairs, software, upgrades, etc) are and shall be the sole responsibility of the "Board" and understands that the State of Illinois assumes no liability for HAVA -mandated upgrades of the local jurisdictions.
6. The "Board" agrees to indemnify and hold the State Board of Elections harmless against claims brought against it by the Election Assistance Commission, or other agency of the state or federal government, for reimbursement of any monies advanced under the HAVA to this "Board" in the event the "Board" is found guilty of misapplication, misuse or misappropriation of HAVA funds received from the State Board of Elections. Indemnification shall include but not be limited to attorney's fees, fines, penalties, and other associated costs of litigation. The "Board" specifically agrees that in the event of any claim of misapplication, misuse or misappropriation of the funds and demand for reimbursement against this "Board", this "Board" agrees that the State Board of Elections may conduct an audit of the application of the funds received from the State Board of Elections in order to determine whether such funds have actually been misapplied or misappropriated.
7. The "Board" authorizes Paula Dozier, County Clerk or other designated official, to act as the agent for the "Board" in preparing and executing all applications and other documents required by the State Board of elections for the purchase of HAVA approved and SBE certified accessible voting equipment, and the "Board" authorizes her to take such action as may be necessary or desirable as requested by the State Board of Elections to effectuate the full purposes of this Resolution, including but not limited to the indemnities provided in this Resolution. The County Clerk is further authorized to provide a certified copy of this Resolution to any agency of government which may request it, certifying that this Resolution was presented and approved accordingly to law at a duly constituted meeting of this "Board".

AYES:   5  

NAYS:   0  

ABSENT:  0  

Ron Wooten  
Chairman  
White County Board

ATTEST:

Paula Dozier  
White County Clerk

SEAL

Mrs. Mitchell made a motion to adopt the resolution, seconded by Trout. Motion passed 5-0 on roll call vote.

Chairman Wooten stated that the next item on the agenda was to move Burnt Prairie Precinct #9 from the Centerville polling place location to the Skillet Fork Outfitters Lodge located at 1104 County Road 1800N, Carmi. Mrs. Mitchell stated that the precinct was located in her County Board District and she has spoken with several of the registered voters and they do not have a problem with moving the polling place. Mrs. Mitchell stated that the current polling place has no bathroom and the County has to rent portable toilets on election day, the building is in need of repair, and that it has limited heat. Mrs. Mitchell made a motion to move the precinct, seconded by Nelson. Motion carried 5-0 on roll call vote.

Mr. Ray made a motion to go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing ambulance personnel and personnel in all other departments, seconded by Mitchell. Motion carried 5-0 on roll call vote.

Mrs. Mitchell made a motion to come out of Executive Session, seconded by Trout. Motion passed 5-0 on roll call vote.

Chairman Wooten stated that the next meeting would be held on Tuesday, September 13, 2005 at 9:00 a.m.

Mrs. Mitchell made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Nelson. Motion passed 5-0 on roll call vote.